

CUSTOMER NO.: 24498  
Serial No.: 09/956,332  
Reply to Office Action of March 18, 2004

PATENT  
PD990017  
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AUG 27 2004

Technology Center 2100

Remarks/Arguments

The Office Action dated March 18, 2004, has been received and carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-8 have been amended to overcome this rejection. New Claims 9-23 have been added. Claims 1-8 have been allowed in the EPO.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please charge the \$1004 fee for the 3 month Petition for Extension of Time and the 3 extra newly added claims, and any other costs that may be associated with the filing of this response, to Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

TIMOTHY HEIGHWAY ET AL.

By

*Catherine A. Ferguson*

Catherine A. Ferguson, Attorney  
Registration No.: 40,877  
(609) 734-6440

Patent Operations  
Thomson Licensing Inc.  
P.O. Box 5312  
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-5312

August 19, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence (and any document referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

*August 19, 2004*

Date

*Patricia M. Fedorowycz*  
Patricia M. Fedorowycz